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 EVENING CRITIC PUBLISHING COMPANY,
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WEDNESDAY, JULY 6, 1881.

"TO THE IDIOTIC INQUIRY, repeated with sickening persistency, 'Is there a Conspiracy?' we deem it proper to reply once for all 'Yes, there is!'"

The parties to it are Wayne MacVeagh, A. M. Gibson and William A. Cook.

The object of this conspiracy is to get the names of the conspirators in print as widely as possible, and the motive is a wild craving for sensational notoriety.

Of course there is nothing criminal about such a conspiracy. Under ordinary circumstances it would be partly ridiculous and partly contemptible. Under the existing extraordinary circumstances it becomes mischievous in proportion as the excitable frame of the public mind may make it susceptible to dangerous fallacies and fanatical wrath.

But happily the later indications are that notwithstanding the terrific strain to which it is being subjected, the public mind is still sufficiently calm and rational to render the silly vapors of the three conspirators, to all intents and purposes, harmless.

The most striking result of this curious conspiracy thus far is the conviction which has settled upon the mind of every honest and right-minded citizen that the aforesaid MacVeagh, Gibson and Cook are utterly unfit for any grave trust or power and their base whispers entirely unworthy of serious attention. There was a time when we feared otherwise. But later indications are more rational than we at first thought it. Be this as it may, it seems to us the part of wisdom to let MacVeagh, Gibson and Cook proceed with their conspiracy, unchecked by even criticism.

So far as the actual prosecution of the case of the United States vs. Charles Guiteau is concerned, it is entirely in the hands of the regular District Attorney, who is proceeding by ordinary and proper judicial methods, and who, therefore, avoids newspaper advertisement of his progress. As soon as the nature of the President's injuries becomes sufficiently defined to enable the District Attorney to determine the legal grade of Guiteau's crime, the prosecution will take place in due form and then the public will know all about it. So far as developed the case promises to be a very plain and simple one, without complications either as to law, fact or circumstance.

Under these conditions there would seem to be no harm in letting MacVeagh, Gibson and Cook proceed with their conspiracy of volunteer self-importance to their heart's content.

ON THE FOURTH OF JULY, fifty-five years ago, no living human being could possibly have known the fact that Thomas Jefferson and John Adams had both expired upon that day. Quincy, Massachusetts, and Monticello, Virginia, were then separated by days of travel, and weeks elapsed before it was known in Europe that so curious a coincidence had connected in death those who had labored in the same cause during their lives. The facilities of intercourse have so increased since that memorable day, that messages of condolence upon the tragic event of Saturday were received at the White House within twenty-four hours from many of the foreign powers, not only marking the full recognition from European thrones to the President of our republic in his dignity as head of a great nation.

OUR PEOPLE will regret that it seems impossible to send off an Arctic expedition, especially if it be a Government affair, without some hitch or break down in the arrangements. The latest victim is the Lady Franklin Bay expedition. Lieut. Greely has been compelled to postpone his departure from St. Johns several days, in consequence of the non-arrival of stores, while the steam launch has been condemned, her boiler replaced by a new one, and all the steam machinery lifted out of her. The proper precautions were not taken, evidently. This habit of finding vessels unseaworthy after they have been manned and loaded appears to be getting fashionable. For further particulars, address the great navigator who had charge of the *Gulnar*.

THE COURAGE and fortitude which are such distinguishing traits of the higher types of American character are being notably demonstrated in the demeanor of the President and his family, while the national admiration for such conduct is shown by the universal praise bestowed upon the cheerfulness of the sufferer, the resolute endurance of his wife, the composure of the children, all working courageously and harmoniously together, with the firm determination to support the family calamity in that heroic spirit which, while facing the worst, does so much to assure the best issue of such a struggle for life.

REPRESENTATIVE DAVIS, of Illinois, "from the Chicago district," is quoted as having said that if it should become necessary to elect a president of the Senate, the honor would probably fall on David Davis, and that this would create a vacancy in the Senate from Illinois. Representative D. is respectfully informed that Uncle David would wield the gavel in the Senate without creating the desired vacancy he speaks of.

A NEWSBOY in a Philadelphia street graphically described the effect of our public calamity upon the entire community by ejaculating fervently: "I believe even Bob Ingersoll is praying!"

THE *Washington Post*, in an editorial this morning, headed "No Body Guards in Times of Peace," says: "Hereafter, as heretofore, the Chief-Magistrate must find his protection in the virtue, intelligence, pride and self-respect of the people. He must have no armed men to surround his person, no troops to ride beside, before or behind his carriage; no bayonets to shut the people out from free access to him."

This strikes our mind as the merest Fourth of July hush. The President of the United States should be hedged about by the loving protection of the whole people, we admit; but that did not save the lamented Lincoln, it did not save Garfield, and it will not save any future President. A single sentinel at the door of Lincoln's box at the theatre that fateful night would in all probability have foiled the assassin. A single suitable detective with the President would in all probability have saved him from Guiteau's pistol. It is absurd to say that proper precautions should not be taken to throw proper official protection around the President. We do not advocate a military body-guard at all times, but on occasions of ceremony it is, proper, and right that the Commander-in-Chief of the United States Army should have a suitable body-guard, and there should be a military guard at all times at the White House. It is only of the same piece as the cry that we should have no army to say that no military should be in or about the White House. All the tramp laws that can ever be framed, all the good wishes of honest, faithful, loyal people will not suffice to protect any President, and the remedy lies in preventives, and in relieving the President from responsibility for so many petty appointments. The country is growing so far beyond the ideas of the original framers of the Constitution that it needs to be changed in the matter of appointments. The vast mass of them should devolve upon the heads of Departments and bureaus, and only the more important and disputed cases should be for the President's action—in brief, he should be the court of last resort.

THE *New York Herald* anxiously remarks that it "cannot comprehend the motives of Mr. MacVeagh," and inquires, "What is the matter with him?" Well, we should say that the *Herald* ought to know. The matter with MacVeagh is simply an aggravated case of big-head, and the *Herald* has had as much to do with producing it as anybody. You can't expect to spend two months flattering the vanity and inflating the egotism of a weak man like MacVeagh without producing an explosion. MacVeagh's head has swelled to the bursting point; and what worries the *Herald* is nothing but the noise of the explosion.

THE EARNEST INVESTIGATION instituted into the condition of vessels which are bringing to our shores so vast a number of immigrants will doubtless have the effect of improving many minor details of the service. The criticism is, however, so open and immediate, and the immigrants mingle so freely among our people, that all complaints are speedily heard, while the commercial necessity of retaining popularity, if no higher feeling, would require the various rival lines to emulate each other in providing such comforts upon the passage as must assure their continued prosperity.

PHILADELPHIA is growling about the condition of her commerce, and a few gentlemen have requested that some one be hired to think about the matter and find out whether a high protective tariff has anything to do with the situation. This is another spasm. Before the hired philosopher is permanently engaged he will be instructed to acquit. Philadelphia has to go through this periodic farce of putting herself on trial and bringing in a verdict of "not guilty." It occurs about once a year, and each time the grasping monopolist feels that an unbiased public opinion has justified him in his course.

IT MAY BE a matter of some public interest to know that from 10:30 Saturday morning to the date of this writing *The Critic* has published twenty-three extra editions, exclusive of the regular daily issue of the paper at 3:45 p. m. That is to say, on an average, *The Critic* has been published once every three hours since Saturday morning. The average number of each publication has been over 10,000 copies, and the total number of papers printed in our press-room during that period approaches the enormous sum of 250,000! This emergency came upon us while our mechanical facilities were yet incomplete, and thereby took us at an immense disadvantage in competition with our more thoroughly equipped contemporaries.

The only means of combating these misfortunes was through the energy and devotion of our working force. Among these Mr. Hack, superintendent of our mechanical department, deserves particular mention. He did not leave the office for more than an hour at a time, between Saturday morning and Tuesday night. During that time he "made up the forms" for twenty-three extra and four regular editions and superintended the press work in addition. Of our reportorial force, upon whom, of course, the heat and burden of the newsgathering fell, we desire to commend particularly Messrs. A. J. Clarke and Will West, our regular Department Reporters, and F. Morgan and W. Ringwalt, City Reporters. The amount of work these young men have done, both in quantity and quality during the last ninety hours, well-nigh without an interval of rest, is almost incredible.

All our force did excellently well. We specially mention only those upon whom particular burdens have been laid and from whom extraordinary exertion has been demanded. Under all the circumstances this crisis has taxed the incomplete resources of *The Critic* under its new management to the utmost, and we feel warranted in "pointing with pride to our achievements" as they say on political platforms. We have the most substantial reasons for believing that the public has appreciated our efforts.

NO EMPEROR OR Czar could by enforced authority receive a tribute more imposing than that conveyed in the simple message wired to Mrs. Garfield almost simultaneously with the tidings of the assassinating blow that the mighty organization of the Pennsylvania Railroad placed itself at her service, and in obedience to her necessities cleared a track for hundreds of miles that she might fly to answer her husband's cry for help, with the aid of the highest appliances of modern science surrounded by the greatest luxuries of modern invention.

EVENTS HAVE VITALIZED the words *E pluribus Unum* from a mere motto into a question of national significance, and it would be curious if the words that have since borne so lofty an import should be traced to a comparatively trivial origin upon the title page of an early magazine. The first serials of this kind, in presenting themselves to the public as an entirely new form of literature, frequently selected these words to express the fact that they intended, in brief space, to exhibit a variety of reading matter, and by calling from every field of literature make out of many one. As in a later day the public taste has seized upon the line, "The night is lighter than the sword," or that very hardly-worked word "Excelsior," the older motto proved very acceptable to the general reading public of the last century, and was chosen by the American colonists as an excellent ready-made phrase suited to their use.

THE COMPLAINTS of Jersey City seem to be pretty numerous, and the latest one mentioned is—cats. Of course nobody will think of saying that such a complaint is amusing, but it is just a little singular that two contemporaneous complaints are about cat congregations. The first relates to a regular cat hospital, which must be a hobby, although the fact is not mentioned. The new cat hospital is a nuisance of the most pronounced kind—a crying grievance indeed—and they indignantly demand of the health inspectors that it shall be promptly abated. The other is perhaps even more of a public catastrophe, for it is expressly stated that a woman confuses a number of cats in a cellar and sets them to fighting at night purposely to wreak her spite upon the neighbors.

AT EVENTIDE, or when the afternoon shadows are lengthening along the ground, a very pretty scene appears as the road sweeps around between the Smithsonian grounds and those of the Agricultural Department. The long stretch of greenward stretches backward, the trees frame in the picture, and behind, the quaint lines of the Smithsonian building and the fine coloring of the new Museum furnish a handsome pile of masonry. In the cool of the day the foreground is usually brightened with children starting and fro, while gay groups of croquet players complete the picture with the pretty touches of color in their fresh and dainty summer costumes.

Got a Job at Home.
 A Berlin dispatch says: "It is probable that Count Herbert Bismarck, eldest son of Prince Bismarck, will shortly be attached to the German legation at Washington. We at home pronounce it a nuisance of the most pronounced kind—a crying grievance indeed—and they indignantly demand of the health inspectors that it shall be promptly abated. The other is perhaps even more of a public catastrophe, for it is expressly stated that a woman confuses a number of cats in a cellar and sets them to fighting at night purposely to wreak her spite upon the neighbors."

Encouraging Home Institutions.
 St. Louis Post-Dispatch.
 Four German actors have lately become insane, and the fact is caused by the use of the Austrian journals as something remarkable. Those sleepy sorbes would probably be astonished to learn that insanity is the rule and not the exception on the American stage.

Explains It All.
 The *Postville Journal* says: "Astronomers are so mad at the comet getting within the range of naked vision, because they saw that they are stupid. Refrain, audacious star!" Sang Pinareto to it, eh? That explains why it has been getting away at the rate of 700,000 miles a day.

The Right Degree for John Sherman.
 New York World.
 Kentucky College has just conferred the degree of LL. D. upon Ex-Secretary John Sherman. In view of our recent Washington dispatches as to his arrangements with the First National Bank of this city, perhaps a degree of S. S. D. would have been more appropriate.

Letting Them Down Easy.
 Detroit Free Press.
 "There is always an ass in every Legislature," remarks an Albany paper. "An ass? Well, that's letting the other forty or fifty fellows down mighty easy."

He Got His Doughtnut.
 In passing around the commencement honors this year, Edison, the wizard of electricity, got the Doctor of Philosophy from a Vermont college.

Try the Same Hole.
 Philadelphia Times.
 Platt has finally escaped, and there is a pretty general hope that he has left a hole big enough for Conkling to get through.

Calamity No Bar.
 Boston Journal.
 How will this affect the contest at Albany? was a question many times asked yesterday. Well, that's letting the other forty or fifty fellows down mighty easy.

A Rare Experience.
 Surgeon-General Barnes assisted at Lincoln's bedside, and now at Garfield's, thus attaining the universal and melancholy honor of officiating twice at the Nation's travail.

Saved from the Wreck.
 Inter-Ocean.
 Governor St. John, of Kansas, declares that the new prohibitory law in that State does not require mosquito bars to be closed.

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 TRUNNELL, CLARK & CO.,
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 DEVLIN & CO.,
 Newest Styles of CLOTHING,
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The only BATTERY known to the World capable of being CHARGED with MEDICAL PROPERTIES, which is TRANSFUSED INTO THE SYSTEM.
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 FEVER and AGUE,
 ALL MALARIAL,
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 DR. RHODES' PATENT ELECTRIC TRANSFUSING BATTERY is worn suspended from the neck by means of a silken cord, and rests upon the spinal column.
 No other like it sent by mail everywhere!
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 Agents of both sexes wanted.

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OPENED THIS MORNING 100 PIECES ALL-INDIA PRINTED LAWNS

AT 20 cents—a Special Bargain. Also,

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100 Pieces Printed Linen Lawns

AT 15 cents, worth 25; all fast colors and very

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Parasols and Sun Umbrellas,

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Hosiery and Gloves.

Our entire stock offered at very low prices. We

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MONTERRAT LIMETTA CHAMPAGNE,

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FOR THE FOURTH OF JULY,

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Largest Assortment of Fire Works, Crackers,

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